

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H.R. 3830

To establish a commission to study the question of adding the Niagara River Gorge to the Wild and Scenic River System.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 2, 2000

Mr. LAFALCE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To establish a commission to study the question of adding the Niagara River Gorge to the Wild and Scenic River System.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Niagara Gorge Wild
5 and Scenic River Study Act”.

6 SEC. 2. Congress finds that—

7 (1) the segment of the Niagara River known as
8 the Niagara Gorge is a unique natural resource of
9 national significance;

1 (2) there is strong support among local, State,
2 and Federal officials, and area residents, for a con-
3 certed cooperative effort to manage the gorge in a
4 productive and meaningful way; and

5 (3) in view of the longstanding Federal practice
6 of assisting States and local governments in pro-
7 tecting, conserving, and enhancing rivers of national
8 significance, the United States has an interest in as-
9 sisting the State of New York and the appropriate
10 local governments in managing the gorge.

11 SEC. 3. Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers
12 Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding the fol-
13 lowing new paragraph:

14 “()Niagara Gorge, New York. The segment of the
15 Niagara River known as the ‘Niagara Gorge’, as may be
16 more specifically defined by the Secretary of the Interior
17 following appropriate studies.”.

18 SEC. 4. Section 5(b) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b))
19 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new
20 paragraph:

21 “The study of the Niagara Gorge identified in para-
22 graph () of subsection (a) shall be completed and the re-
23 port submitted thereon not later than the end of the third
24 fiscal year beginning after the enactment of this para-
25 graph. Such report shall include a discussion of manage-

1 ment alternatives for the gorge if it were to be included
2 in the national wild and scenic river system.”.

3 SEC. 5. At the earliest practicable date following en-
4 actment of this title, but not later than forty-five days
5 after enactment, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter
6 in this title referred to as the “Secretary”) shall imple-
7 ment a Niagara Gorge Study Process within the Depart-
8 ment of the Interior. The process shall commence imme-
9 diately upon enactment of this paragraph and shall termi-
10 nate on the later of the following: (a) the completion of
11 the river study of the Niagara Gorge as described in sec-
12 tion 5(a)() of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; or (b) the
13 publication of management alternatives should the river
14 be included in the wild and scenic rivers system.

15 SEC. 6. As used in this title (other than in section
16 3) the term “River” means the segments of the Niagara
17 Gorge described in paragraph () of section 5(a) of the
18 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1275(a)).

19 SEC. 7. There are authorized to be appropriated up
20 to \$150,000 to carry out the purposes of this title.

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